

QUE

Fair silver buxins' nymphs,
I know this *quest* of yours and free intent
Was all in honour and devotion meant.
To the great mistress of your princely shrine. *Milton.*
An aged man in rural weeds,
Following, as seem'd, the *quest* of some stray ewe. *Milton.*
One for all
Myself expose, with lonely steps to tread
Th' unfounded deep, and the void immense
To search with wand'ring *quest* a place foretold
Should be. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ii.*
Since first break of dawn, the fiend,
Mere serpent in appearance, forth was come,
And on his *quest*, where likeliest he might find
The only two of mankind. *Milton.*
'T would be not strange, should we find Paradise at this
day where Adam left it; and I the rather note this, because
I see there are some so earnest in *quest* of it. *Woodward.*
There's not an African,
That traverses our vast Numidian deserts
In *quest* of prey, and lives upon his bow,
But better practises these boasted virtues. *Addison's Cato.*
We see them active and vigilant in *quest* of delight. *Spect.*
2. [For *inquest*.] An empanell'd jury.
What's my offence?
Where is the evidence, that doth accuse me?
What lawful *quest* have given their verdict up
Unto the frowning judge. *Shakespeare, Richard III.*
3. Searchers. Collectively.
You have been hotly call'd for,
When, being not at your lodging to be found,
The senate sent above three several *quests*
To search you out. *Shakespeare, Othello.*
4. Enquiry; examination.
O place and greatness! millions of false eyes
Are stuck upon thee; volumes of report
Run with these false and most contrarious *quests*
Upon thy doings. *Shakespeare, Measure for Measure.*
5. Request; desire; solicitation.
Gad not abroad at every *quest* and call
Of an untrained hope or passion. *Herbert.*
To *QUEST. v. n.* [quæter, Fr. from the noun.] To go in
search.
QUESTANT. n. f. [from *quester*, Fr.] Seeker; endeavourer
after.
See, that you come
Not to woo honour, but to wed it; when
The bravest *questant* shrinks, find what you seek,
That fame may cry you loud. *Shakespeare.*
QUESTION. n. f. [question, Fr. *questio*, Latin.]
1. Interrogatory; any thing enquired.
Because he that knoweth least is fittest to ask *questions*, it is
more reason for the entertainment of the time, that ye ask
me *questions*, than that I ask you. *Bacon.*
2. Enquiry; disquisition.
It is to be put to *question*, whether it be lawful for christian
princes to make an invasive war simply for the propagation of
the faith. *Bacon's Holy War.*
3. A dispute; a subject of debate.
There arose a *question* between some of John's disciples and
the Jews about purifying. *Jo. iii. 25.*
4. Affair to be examined.
In points of honour to be try'd,
Suppose the *question* not your own. *Swift.*
5. Doubt; controversy; dispute.
This is not my writing,
Though I confess much like the character:
But out of *question* 'tis Maria's hand. *Shakespeare.*
'Tis time for him to shew himself, when his very being is
called in *question*, and to come and judge the world, when
men begin to doubt whether he made it. *Tillotson.*
The doubt of their being native impressions on the mind,
is stronger against these moral principles than the other; not
that it brings their truth at all in *question*. *Locke.*
Our own earth would be barren and desolate, without the
benign influence of the solar rays, which without *question* is
true of all the other planets. *Bentley.*
6. Judicial trial.
But whosoever be found guilty, the communion book hath
surely deserved least to be called in *question* for this fault. *Hooker, b. v. f. 31.*
7. Examination by torture.
Such a presumption is only sufficient to put the person to
the rack or *question*, according to the civil law, and not bring
him to condemnation. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*
8. State of being the subject of present enquiry.
If we being defendants do answer, that the ceremonies in
question are godly, comely, decent, profitable for the church,
their reply is childish and unorderly to say, that we demand
the thing in *question*, and shew the poverty of our cause,
the goodness whereof we are fain to beg that our adversaries
would grant. *Hooker, b. iv. f. 4.*

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If he had said, it would purchase six shillings and three-
pence weighty money, he had proved the matter in *question*. *Locke.*
Nor are these assertions that dropped from their pens by
chance, but delivered by them in places where they profess to
state the points in *question*. *Atterbury's Preface.*
9. Endeavour; search. Not in use.
As it more concerns the Turk than Rhodes,
So may he with more facile *questio* bear it;
For that it stands not in such warlike brace,
But altogether lacks the abilities
That Rhodes is dress'd in. *Shakespeare.*
To *QUESTIO. v. n.* [from the noun.]
1. To enquire.
Suddenly out of this delightful dream
The man awoke, and would have *questio*'d more;
But he would not endure the woful theme. *Spenser.*
He that *questio*eth much shall learn much, and content
much; but especially if he apply his *questions* to the skill of
the persons whom he asketh. *Bacon's Essays.*
2. To debate by interrogatories.
I pray you think you *questio* with a Jew;
You may as well use *question* with the wolf,
Why he hath made the ewe bleat for the lamb. *Shakespeare.*
To *QUESTIO. v. a.* [questionner, Fr.]
1. To examine one by *questions*.
Question your royal thoughts, make the case yours;
Be now the father, and propose a son;
Hear your own dignity so much prophand;
And then imagine me taking your part,
And in your pow'r to silencing your son. *Shakespeare.*
But hark you, Kate,
I must not have you henceforth *questio* me,
Whither I go. *Shakespeare, Henry IV, p. i.*
This construction is not so undubitably to be received, as
not at all to be *questioned*. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
2. To doubt; to be uncertain of.
O impotent estate of human life!
Where fleeting joy does lasting doubt inspire,
And most we *questio* what we most desire. *Prior.*
3. To have no confidence in; to mention as not to be trusted.
Be a design never so artificially laid, if it chanceth to be de-
feated by some cross accident, the man is then run down, his
counsels derided, his prudence *questioned*, and his person
despised. *South's Sermon 2.*
QUESTIONABLE. adj. [from *question*.]
1. Doubtful; disputable.
Your accustomed clemency will take in good worth, the
offer of these my simple labours, bestowed for the necessary
justification of laws heretofore made *questionable*, because not
perfectly understood. *Hooker's Dedication.*
That persons drowned float, the ninth day when their gall
breaketh, is a *questionable* determination, both in the time
and cause. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
It is *questionable*, whether the use of steel springs was
known in those ancient times. *Wilkins's Math. Magic.*
It is *questionable*, whether Galen ever saw the dissection
of a human body. *Baker's Reflections on Learning.*
2. Suspicious; liable to suspicion; liable to *question*.
Be thy advent wicked or charitable,
Thou com'st in such a *questionable* shape,
That I will speak to thee. *Shakespeare, Hamlet.*
QUESTIONARY. adj. [from *question*.] Enquiring; asking
questions.
I grow laconick even beyond laconicism; for sometimes I
return only yes or no to *questionary* epistles of half a yard
long. *Pope to Swift.*
QUESTIONABLENESS. n. f. [from *question*.] The quality of
being *questionable*.
QUESTIONER. n. f. [from *question*.] An enquirer.
QUESTIONLESS. adv. [from *question*.] Certainly; without
doubt.
Questions hence it comes that many were mistaken. *Ral.*
Questionless duty moves not so much upon command as
promise; now that which proposes the greatest and most suit-
able rewards to obedience, and the greatest punishments to
disobedience, doubtless is the most likely to enforce the one
and prevent the other. *South.*
QUESTMAN. n. f. [quest, man, and monger.] Starter of
QUESTMONGER. n. f. [lawuits or prosecutions.]
Their principal working was upon penal laws, wherein
they spared none, great nor small, but raked over all new and
old statutes, having ever a rabble of promoters, *questmongers*,
and leading jurors at their command. *Bacon.*
QUESTTRIST. n. f. [from *quest*.] Seeker; pursuer.
Six and thirty of his knights,
Hot *questtrists* after him, met him at the gate,
Are gone with him tow'rd Dover. *Shakespeare, King Lear.*
QUESTUARY. adj. [from *questus*, Lat.] Studios of profit.
Although lapidaries and *questuary* enquirers affirm it, yet
the writers of minerals conceive the stone of this name to be
a mineral concretion, not to be found in animals. *Brown.*
QUIB. n. f. A farcasm; a bitter taunt. *Ans.* The same per-
haps with *quip*.
To *QUIBBLE. v. n.* [from the noun.] To pun; to play on
the found of words.
The first service was neats tongues sliced, which the phi-
losophers took occasion to discourse and *quibble* upon in a
grave formal way. *L'Estrange.*
QUIBBLE. n. f. [from *quidlibet*, Latin.] A low conceit de-
pending on the found of words; a pun.
This may be of great use to immortalize puns and *quibbles*,
and to let posterity see their forefathers were blockheads. *Add.*
Quirks or *quibbles* have no place in the search after truth. *Watts.*
QUIBBLER. n. f. [from *quibble*.] A punster.
QUICK. adj. [cpic, Saxon.]
1. Living; not dead.
They swallowed us up *quick*, when their wrath was kindled
against us. *Psalms cxiv. 3.*
If there be *quick* raw flesh in the rifings, it is an old le-
prosy. *Lev. xiii. 10.*
The *quick* and the dead. *Common Prayer.*
As the sun makes; here noon, there day, there night
Melts wax, dries clay, makes flow'rs, some *quick*, some
dead. *Davies.*
Thence shall come,
When this world's dissolution shall be ripe,
With glory and pow'r to judge both *quick* and dead. *Milt.*
2. Swift; nimble; done with celerity.
Prayers whereunto devout minds have added a piercing
kind of brevity, thereby the better to express that *quick* and
speedy expedition, wherewith ardent affections, the very
wings of prayer, are delighted to present our suits in heaven. *Hooker, b. v. f. 33.*
3. Speedy; free from delay.
Oft he to her his charge of *quick* return
Repeated. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ix.*
4. Active; spritely; ready.
A man of great facility in business, and he preserved so
great a vigour of mind even to his death, when near eighty,
that some, who had known him in his younger years, did
believe him to have much *quicker* parts in his age than
before. *Clarendon.*
A man must have passed his noviciate in finning, before
he comes to this, he never so *quick* a proficient. *South.*
The animal, which is first produced of an egg, is a blind
and dull worm; but that which hath its resurrection thence,
is a *quick* eyed, volatile and sprightly fly. *Grew's Cosmol.*
QUICK. adv. Nimble; speedily; readily.
Ready in gybes, *quick* answer'd, faucy, and
As quarrelous as the weazel. *Shakespeare, Cymbeline.*
This shall your understanding clear
Those things from me that you shall hear,
Conceiving much the *quicker*. *Drotyon's Nymphid.*
They gave those complex ideas, that the things they were
continually to give and receive information about, might be
the easier and *quicker* understood. *Locke.*
This is done with little notice, if we consider how very
quick the actions of the mind are performed, requiring not
time, but many of them crowded into an instant. *Locke.*
QUICK. n. f.
1. A live animal.
Peeping close into the thick,
Might see the moving of some *quick*,
Whose shape appeared not;
But were it fairy, fiend or snake,
My courage earned it to wake,
And manful threat forth. *Spenser.*
2. The living flesh; sensible parts.
If Stanley held, that a son of king Edward had still the
better right, it was to teach all England to say as much; and
therefore that speech touched the *quick*. *Bacon.*
Seiz'd with sudden smart,
Stung to the *quick*, he felt it at his heart. *Dryden.*
The thoughts of this disgraceful composition so touches me
to the *quick*, that I cannot sleep. *Arbuthnot's Hist. of J. Bull.*
Scarifying gangrenes, by several incisions down to the
quick, is almost universal, and with reason, since it not only
discharges a pernicious ichor, but makes way for topical
applications. *Sharp's Surgery.*
3. Living plants.
For indoling of land, the most usual way is with a ditch
and bank set with *quick*. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
QUICKBEAM, or quicktree. n. f.
Quickbeam or wild forb, by some called the Irish ash, is a
species of wild ash, preceded by blossoms of an agreeable
scent. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
To *QUICKEN. v. a.* [cpiccan, Saxon.]
1. To make alive.
All they that go down into the dust, shall kneel before him;
and no man hath *quicken*ed his own soul. *Psalms xxii. 30.*
I will never forget thy commandments; for with them
thou hast *quicken*ed me. *Psalms exix.*

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This my mean task would be
As heavy to me, as 'tis odious; but
The mistress which I serve, *quicken*s what's dead,
And makes my labours pleasures. *Shakespeare, Tempest.*
To *quicken* with kissing; had my lips that power,
Thus would I wear them out. *Shakespeare, Ant. and Cleop.*
Fair soul, since to the fairest body join'd
You give such lively life, such *quicken*ing pow'r,
And influence of such celestial kind,
As keeps it still in youth's immortal flower. *Davies.*
He throws
His influence round, and kindles as he goes;
Hence flocks and herds, and men, and beasts and fowls
With breath are *quicken*'d, and attract their souls. *Dryden.*
2. To hasten; to accelerate.
You may sooner by imagination *quicken* or slack a mo-
tion, than raise or cease it; as it is easier to make a dog go
flower, than to make him stand still. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
Others were appointed to consider of penal laws and pro-
clamations in force, and to *quicken* the execution of the most
principal. *Hayward.*
Though any commodity should shift hands never so fast,
yet, if they did not cease to be any longer traffick, this would
not at all make or *quicken* their vent. *Locke.*
3. To sharpen; to actuate; to excite.
Though my senses were astonish'd, my mind forced them
to *quicken* themselves; because I had learnt of him, how little
favour he is wont to shew in any matter of advantage. *Stanley.*
It was like a fruitful garden without an hedge, that *quicken*s
the appetite to enjoy so tempting a prize. *South.*
They endeavour by brandy to *quicken* their taste already
extinguish'd. *Tatler, N^o 57.*
This review he makes use of, as an argument of great
force to *quicken* them in the improvement of those advantages
to which the mercy of God had called them by the gospel. *Rogers's Sermons.*
The desire of fame hath been no inconsiderable motive to
quicken you in the pursuit of those actions, which will best
deserve it. *Swift.*
To *QUICKEN. v. n.*
1. To become alive: as, a woman *quicken*s with child.
These hairs, which thou dost ravish from my chin,
Will *quicken* and accuse thee; I'm your host;
With robbers hands, my hospitable favour
You should not ruffle thus. *Shakespeare, King Lear.*
They rub out of it a red dust, that converteth after a while
into worms, which they kill with wine when they begin to
quicken. *Sandys's Journey.*
The heart is the first part that *quicken*s, and the last that
dies. *Ray on the Creation.*
2. To move with activity.
Sees by degrees a purer blush arise,
And keener lightnings *quicken* in her eyes. *Pope.*
QUICKENER. n. f. [from *quicken*.]
1. One who makes alive.
2. That which accelerates; that which actuates.
Love and enmity, aversion and fear are notable whetters
and *quickeners* of the spirit of life in all animals. *More.*
QUICKLIME. n. f. [calx viva, Lat. *quick* and *lime*.] Lime
unquenched.
After burning the stone, when lime is in its perfect and un-
altered state, it is called *quicklime*. *Hill's Materia Medica.*
QUICKLY. adv. [from *quick*.] Nimble; speedily; actively.
Thou com'st to use thy tongue: thy story *quicksly*. *Shak.*
Pleasure dwells no longer upon the appetite than the ne-
cessities of nature, which are *quicksly* and easily provided for;
and then all that follows is an oppression. *South.*
QUICKNESS. n. f. [from *quick*.]
1. Speed; velocity; celerity.
What any invention hath in the strength of its motion, is
abated in the slowness of it; and what it hath in the extra-
ordinary *quickness* of its motion, must be allowed for in the
great strength that is required unto it. *Wilkins.*
Joy, like a ray of the sun, reflects with a greater ardour
and *quickness*, when it rebounds upon a man from the breast
of his friend. *South's Sermons.*
2. Activity; briskness.
The best choice is of an old physician and a young lawyer;
because, where errors are fatal, ability of judgment and mo-
deration are required; but where advantages may be wrought
upon, diligence and *quickness* of wit. *Wotton.*
The *quickness* of the imagination is seen in the invention,
the fertility in the fancy, and the accuracy in the expression. *Dryden.*
3. Keen sensibility.
Would not *quickness* of sensation be an inconvenience to an
animal, that must lie still. *Locke.*
4. Sharpness; pungency.
Thy generous fruits, though gather'd ere their prime,
Still shew'd a *quickness*; and maturing time
But mellow what we write to the dull sweets of rhyme. *Dryden.*
Ginger

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